

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 466

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to direct the Secretary of Education to make grants to local educational agencies for the recruitment, training, and hiring of 100,000 individuals to serve as school-based resource staff.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 6, 2001

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii (for herself, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. STARK, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. FORD, Mr. RUSH, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. OWENS, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. KUCINICH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to direct the Secretary of Education to make grants to local educational agencies for the recruitment, training, and hiring of 100,000 individuals to serve as school-based resource staff.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. RESOURCE STAFF FOR STUDENTS.**

2 Title X of the Elementary and Secondary Education
3 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8001 et. seq) is amended by add-
4 ing at the end the following:

5 **“PART L—RESOURCE STAFF FOR STUDENTS**

6 **“SEC. 10993. FINDINGS.**

7 “Congress finds the following:

8 “(1) Although 7,500,000 children under the age
9 of 18 require mental health services, fewer than 1 in
10 5 of these children receive the services.

11 “(2) Across the United States, counseling pro-
12 fessionals have an extremely busy caseload and often
13 students do not get the help they need. The current
14 national average ratio of students to counselors in
15 elementary and secondary schools is 513:1.

16 “(3) Schools in the United States need more
17 mental health professionals, and the funds needed to
18 hire staff to specifically serve students.

19 “(4) The maximum recommended ratio of stu-
20 dents-to-counselors is 250:1.

21 “(5) Existing counselors are severely taxed to
22 perform duties that are largely administrative in na-
23 ture, such as scheduling. They are burdened with
24 many demands regarding placement in colleges,
25 texting, career guidance, and the like.

1 “(6) Student populations are expected to grow
2 significantly over the next few years. School-based
3 services for students will be in great demand. With
4 expected large scale retirements, more than 100,000
5 new dedicated resource staff for students will be
6 needed to increase student-to-staff service avail-
7 ability.

8 “(7) Federal support for reducing the student-
9 to-staff ratio would pay for itself, through reduced
10 violence and substance abuse, and through improve-
11 ments in students’ academic achievement.

12 **“SEC. 10994. PURPOSES.**

13 “The purposes of this part are to assist local edu-
14 cational agencies in recruiting, training, and hiring
15 100,000 school-based resource staff to specifically work
16 with students—

17 “(1) to reduce the student-to-counseling ratios
18 nationally, in grades 6–12, to an average of 1 such
19 staff for every 250 students as recommended in a
20 report by the Institute of Medicine of the National
21 Academy of Sciences relating to schools and health,
22 issued in 1997;

23 “(2) to help address the mental, emotional, and
24 developmental needs of public school students; and

1 “(3) to support other school staff and teachers
2 in reaching students early before problems arise,
3 conducting behavioral interventions to improve
4 school discipline, and developing the awareness and
5 skills to identify early warning signs of violence and
6 the need for mental health services.

7 **“SEC. 10995. STUDENT RESOURCE STAFF PROGRAM.**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with this section,
9 the Secretary shall make grants to local educational agen-
10 cies to assist such agencies in providing resource staff to
11 meet students’ needs.

12 “(b) DISTRIBUTION.—In making grants under this
13 section, the Secretary shall ensure that there is a fair dis-
14 tribution of grants nationwide.

15 “(c) DURATION.—Each grant made under this sec-
16 tion shall be for a period not to exceed 3 years.

17 “(d) APPLICATION.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each local educational
19 agency seeking a grant under this section shall sub-
20 mit an application to the Secretary at such time, in
21 such manner, and accompanied by such information
22 as the Secretary may reasonably require.

23 “(2) CONTENTS.—Each application for a grant
24 under this section shall—

1 “(A) describe the secondary public school
2 population to be targeted by the program, the
3 particular personal, social, emotional, education,
4 and career development needs of such popu-
5 lation, and the current school counseling re-
6 sources available for meeting such needs;

7 “(B) describe the activities, services, and
8 training to be provided by the program and the
9 specific approaches to be used to meet the
10 needs described in subparagraph (A);

11 “(C) describe the methods to be used to
12 evaluate the outcomes and effectiveness of the
13 program;

14 “(D) document that the applicant has the
15 personnel qualified to develop, implement, and
16 administer the program; and

17 “(E) assure that the funds made available
18 under this part for any fiscal year will be used
19 to supplement and, to the extent practicable, in-
20 crease the level of funds that would otherwise
21 be available from non-Federal sources for the
22 program described in the application, and in no
23 case supplant such funds from non-Federal
24 sources.

1 “(e) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds made available to local
2 educational agencies under this section shall be used to
3 provide resource staff in accordance with the purposes de-
4 scribed in section 10994.

5 “(f) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this part the
6 term ‘resource staff’ means an individual who has docu-
7 mented competence and training in mental health to be
8 able to provide services to children and adolescents in a
9 school setting and who—

10 “(1) possesses State licensure or certification in
11 mental health granted by an independent profes-
12 sional regulatory authority;

13 “(2) possesses national certification in mental
14 health or in a related specialty granted by an inde-
15 pendent professional organization;

16 “(3) holds a minimum of a master’s degree in
17 school counseling from a program accredited by the
18 Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related
19 Educational Programs or the equivalent;

20 “(4) possesses a minimum of 60 graduate se-
21 mester hours in school psychology from an institu-
22 tion of higher education and has completed 1,200
23 clock hours in a supervised school psychology intern-
24 ship, of which 600 hours shall be in the school set-
25 ting, and possesses State licensure or certification in

1 school psychology in the State in which the indi-
2 vidual works; or

3 “(5) holds a master’s degree in social work and
4 is licensed or certified by the State in which services
5 are to be provided or holds a school social work spe-
6 cialist credential.

7 “(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
8 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this part
9 \$2,800,000,000 for fiscal year 2002, \$3,000,000,000 for
10 fiscal year 2003, \$3,200,000,000 for fiscal year 2004, and
11 \$3,500,000,000 for fiscal year 2005 and each fiscal year
12 thereafter.”.

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